

REMARKS

I. Allowed Claims

Claims 1, 3-7, and 22-31 were allowed. The proposed amendments to allowed claims 4 and 25-31 are intended to address informalities.

II. Claims 32-38

Claims 32-35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US 6,670,628) and Ovshinsky (US 6,087,674), considered together, further in view of Gilton (US 6,646,902). Claim 36 is rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 32-35 and 38, and further in view of Reinberg (US 6,284,643) and Plaettner et al. (US 4,292,343). Claim 37 is rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 32-35 and 38, and further in view of Ovshinsky (US 5,687,112).

Applicant proposes an amendment to independent claim 32 showing that at least one of the electrodes has at least two field amplifier structures for amplifying field strength of the electric field in the changeover material. The proposed amendments to claims 33-38 are intended to address informalities. The office action indicates that the prior art does not teach the combination of features set forth for a nonvolatile memory element, including the electrodes having field amplifier structures as recited in claims 1, 3-7, and 22-31. With respect to claim 1, the prior art does not teach the combination of features set forth for a nonvolatile memory element including an electrode having at least two field amplifier structures for amplifying field strength of the electric field in the changeover material. Claim 32, as amended in this proposed amendment, includes electrodes having field amplifier structures similar to those of allowed claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant requests entry of the proposed amendments and allowance of claims 32-38 for the reasons stated in the Office Action with respect to the allowance of claims 1, 3-7, and 22-31.

SUMMARY

Applicant proposes amendments to claims 4 and 25-38. The proposed amendments to claims 4, 25-31, and 33-38 address informalities. No new matter is

entered through these proposed amendments. Claims 1, 3-7, and 22-31 are allowed. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the proposed amendments and submits that claims 32-38, as amended, are allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner grant allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicant via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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